

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A method for providing secure system access in a data processing system, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving, from a user, an authentication request comprising a user name associated with said user, a password associated with said user, and a domain name associated with said user;

using said domain name to ~~determine~~ select, by a single user registry adapter framework interface router that is operatively coupled to a plurality of heterogeneous servers, (i) an access protocol adapter that is associated with said domain name and (ii) an access registry that is associated with said domain name, wherein the access protocol adapter is selected from a plurality of heterogeneous access protocol adapters and loaded into a memory associated with the single user registry adapter framework interface router, and the access registry is selected from a plurality of access registries, wherein each of the access protocol adapters is a communication module that is tailored for a given one of the plurality of access registries in order to handle data manipulation of the authentication request to conform to the given one of the plurality of access registries, and wherein each one of the plurality of different access registries is used to authenticate users for a given respective domain of the data processing system;

routing access queries from said user to said access registry using said selected access protocol adapter; and

authenticating said user using said selected access registry;

wherein the single user registry adapter framework interface router maintains a one-to-one mapping between each supported domain and associated registry for the supported domain.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 6, further comprising the step of determining if said access protocol adapter that is associated with said domain name is in said memory.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 7, further comprising the step of conditionally loading said access protocol adapter that is associated with said domain name if said access protocol adapter is not in said memory.

9-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method for providing secure system access in a data processing system, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a plurality of heterogeneous authentication registries, said plurality of authentication registries being accessed by a corresponding plurality of access ~~protocols~~; protocol adapters; and

routing authorization queries to a corresponding one of said plurality of access ~~protocols~~ protocol adapters which accesses a corresponding one of said plurality of authentication registries to authenticate a user to access a resource of a system, wherein said routing step routes said authorization query to the corresponding one of said plurality of access protocol adapters according to a domain name specified by said user, and wherein each one of the plurality of authentication registries is used to authenticate users for a given respective domain of the data processing system, wherein each of the access protocol adapters is a communication module that is tailored for a given one of the plurality of access registries in order to handle data manipulation of the authentication request to conform to the given one of the plurality of access registries;

wherein the single user registry adapter framework interface router maintains a one-to-one mapping between each supported domain and associated registry for the supported domain.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 17, further comprising the step of determining if said corresponding one of said plurality of access protocols is in memory.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 18, further comprising the step of loading said corresponding one of said plurality of access protocols if said corresponding one of said plurality of access protocols is not in said memory.

20-22. (Cancelled)